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and assimilation of congeners, suffixes in names of birds, animals and plants in Greek, suffixes in names of divisions of time, etc. The paper is a distinct contribution to linguistic psychology.

The Spelling Reform (Bureau of Education, Circular of Information, No. 8, 1893). F. A. MARCH. (Washington), (1893), 86 pp. 8vo.

This is a revised and enlarged issue of the pamphlet published by the United States Bureau of Education in 1881 and exhibits the progress of the movement for the reform of our absurd system of spelling since that date, progress that must encourage the distinguished advocates of the innovation.

A propos de la réforme orthographique. CH. LEBAGUE. *Revue Pédagogique* (Paris), Tome XXII. (1893), 213-222.

Discusses the report of the Dictionary Committee of the French Academy. The author finds fault with the committee in one point only—it has favored the hyphen too much.

Une Objection contre la Réforme de l'orthographe: l'étymologie. A. RENARD. *Ibid.*, XXIII. (1893), 36-43.

The author holds that etymology has nothing to do in principle with orthography, and supports his views by numerous well-chosen illustrations.

Simplified Spelling; A Symposium. *Amer. Anthropol.* (Washington), VI. (1893), 137-206.

In this symposium on the question: "Is simplified spelling feasible as proposed by the English and American philological societies?" the following distinguished gentlemen took part: Professor F. A. March, Dr. W. T. Harris, Dr. Alexander Melville Bell, J. M. Gregory, W. B. Owen, E. T. Peters, C. P. G. Scott, J. C. Pilling, A. R. Spofford, B. E. Smith, Professor W. D. Whitney, Major J. W. Powell. The chief who answered the question in the negative, was Dr. Spofford, who said, "The cardinal error of the spelling reformers is: They forget that the language of a people is an evolution, not a creation." Perhaps the most interesting contribution to the symposium is that of Mr. J. C. Pilling, who gives (pp. 182-186) a brief account of the syllabaries used by missionaries and others to record and to teach Indian languages.

The Native Calendar of Central America and Mexico; A Study in Linguistics and Symbolism. D. G. BRINTON. (Philadelphia), (1893), 59 pp. 8vo.

This new and extended study of the calendar-systems of Central American and Mexican aborigines contains much of psychological interest. The mathematical basis, the day-periods, the solar year, divination by the calendar, and calendar festivals are briefly referred to, but the main portion of the work (pp. 20-49) is devoted to acute analysis of the day and month names, with a discussion of their symbolism (pp. 49-59), and hieratic significations. According to Dr. Brinton, the philosophic conception, which, without any straining, was intended to be conveyed by the calendar, covering the career of human life from birth till death in old age, was this: "The individual emerges from the womb of his mother, and the parturient waters, as did the earth from the primeval ocean; he receives breath and with it life, which is supported by repose and food. The man reproduces his kind; the woman, at the risk of